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Mayor's "San Jose Works" Youth Jobs Initiative Working Group Meets Tonight

SAN JOSE—Mayor Sam Liccardo's "San Jose Works" Working Group continues to tackle San José's youth unemployment rate. The SJ Works Working Group is meeting tonight **Wednesday, April 1** from **6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** at the **Pipes and Trades Training Center, 780 Commercial Street, San José.**

"I am looking forward to tonight's discussion and building on the foundation we laid at the March meeting," said Mayor Liccardo. "This program is essential to ensuring that San José's future, our children, finds a path to a college and a job instead of into a gang."

Mayor Liccardo included \$1 million in funding for 500 youth jobs in his March Budget Message, which was unanimously approved by Council last week. The Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors also committed \$1 million for another 500 youth jobs. SJ Works is already showing signs of success by gaining the support of many private sector employers:

- Target has committed to provide 50 jobs.
- Lowe's has committed to provide 100 jobs.
- Home Depot has committed to provide 25-50 jobs.
- Bank of America has committed \$50,000.
- Microsoft has committed \$25,000.
- San Jose State University Career Center will be assisting in connecting SJ Works to employers who have entry level positions to fill.

While some early progress has been made, the SJ Works Working Group will continue to focus on connecting more than 1,000 youth with summer jobs. Tonight's meeting will focus on the launch of SJ Works and developing a system to identify youth who would qualify and benefit from the program. Youth who live in defined hot spot areas and are interested in registering or enrolling in job training and employment programs can contact the Work2Future Office either online at www.work2futurefoundation.org/summer-jobs, or they may contact the Youth Hotline: (408) 794-1234.